Application No.: Amendment Dated: Reply to Office Action of: 09/811,682 August 23, 2006 June 1, 2006

## **Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 2-8, 11-15, 17-18 and 21-26 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 2-8, 11-15 and 21-26 have been found allowable by the Examiner.

Claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Nishimoto et al. Claim 17 depends from any one of claims 2, 4 and 11. The Examiner asserts however, that claim 17 is rejected because "some functions" of claims 2, 4 and 11 are included in the prior art. Claim 17 has been amended to recite "all functions." The terms "whole or part of" has all been deleted. Claim 17, as amended is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Nishimoto et al.

Claim 18 depends from any one of claims 24-26. The Examiner asserts however, that claim 18 is rejected because "some operations" of claims 24-26 are included in the prior art. Claim 18 has been amended to recite "all operations." The terms "whole or part of" has all been deleted. Claim 18, as amended is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Nishimoto et al.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this Application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 23, 2006

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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Fran Petrillo